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DISTRICT

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1968.

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Broadwoodwidger Rural District.

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1948.

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Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report for the year 1948.

The general health of the district remained good throughout the year and apart from Whooping Cough no serious infective condition occurred. The general cleanliness of the school children was excellent and the provision of a mid-day meal was a great boon in this entirely rural area.

The births were average for the district and are comparable with England & Wales as a whole.

Twenty-one deaths were recorded and these gave a death rate of 10.4 per 1,000 population as against England & Wales at 10.8. This is considered a very good indication of the general health and well being of the neighbourhood.

Three infants out of 33 births appear to be a high percentage of infantile deaths but a perusal of their causes reveals that they belong to the present group of unpreventable causes. No infant died from a cause which would cast a reflection on modern welfare.

It is with very considerable satisfaction that one can once again record the excellent result of milk sampling. Of all grades of milk sampled only 18% failed the cleanliness test. Compared with other areas your farms are to be highly congratulated.

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General Statistics.

Area	29,294.
Population - Mid 1948	2,019.
No. of Inhabited Houses	546.
Rateable Value	£4,119.
Product of Penny Rate	£17.
Loan Debt	£15,418.

Vital Statistics.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births	11	22	33
Legitimate	11	20	
Illegitimate	0	2	

		England & Wales.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.3	17.9
Still Births	Nil.	0.42.

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	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	11	10	21

		England & Wales
Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	10.4	10.8
Deaths from Maternal Causes ...	Nil	1.02
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ...	3	
Infantile Mortality ...	84	34

The chief causes of death were :-

General Causes.

Heart Disease	6
Cancer	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage	4
Pneumonia	1
Bronchitis	1
Other Causes	1

Infants under 1 year.

Prematurity	2
Rhesus disease of new-born . .	1
Total :	21.

Age of Death Table.

Age at Death	Males.	Females.	
Infants under 1 year ...	1	2	
1 - 5.	-	-	
5 - 15	-	-	
15 - 25	-	-	
25 - 35	-	-	
35 - 45	-	-	
45 - 55	-	-	
55 - 65	1	3	
65 - 75	6	2	
75 & Over	3	3	
	11	10	Total : 21.

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General Provisions of the Health Services.

The general provisions of the health services remained as in previous years except that various administrative adjustments were made on the appointed day, 5th July, 1948, when the Health Service Act became operative. Apart from the Ambulance Service which had to be rearranged after representation and now appears to be satisfactory, there is nothing further to report in this section.

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Infectious Diseases.

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified by practitioners :

Whooping Cough ..... 17.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified by the schools in the district :

Whooping Cough	28
Mumps	13
Chicken Pox	1
Impetigo	1

Preventive action was taken when and where infectious conditions occurred

Diphtheria.

No case of this disease occurred in your district during the year and it was with regret that this necessary procedure had to be handed over by your Council on the appointed day. The results of this action will only resolve themselves in a process of time.

At 5th July, 1948, 49% of the children under 5 years of age and 84% of school children had been immunised.

Tuberculosis.

No cases of this disease were notified during the year and no deaths were recorded. At the end of the year two people remained on the register.

In conclusion I would thank the Council for the ready hearing I always receive and to Mr. Judd who has kindly once again prepared the section on housing and sanitation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. D. ALLEN-PRICE.

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

Council Houses.

Ladycross.

The six Cornish Unit houses on this site were completed late in the year.

Maxworthy.

Although this contract was signed early in 1947 it was not until the end of 1948 that the site works were started. At the time of writing this report no work has started on the actual building of the houses owing to the difficulty of obtaining a Sub-Contractor.

Langdon.

The site works tender in connection with two Cornish Unit houses was sent to the Ministry of Health three times before it was possible to reduce it sufficiently to be accepted in the sum of £794-0-10. Work has not yet started on the site.

St. Giles-in-the-Heath.

The original site works tender received in February for work in connection with the six Cornish Unit houses to be built on this site was £3,389-14-10. Three revised tenders have been submitted to the Ministry of Health but, by the end of the year, it had not been possible to reduce the tender to a reasonable figure.

Broadwood Village.

As a local building firm had promised to erect four traditional houses on this site, permission was obtained from the Ministry of Health to substitute this type of house for Cornish Units. Plans were prepared and submitted for approval during the year.

PLANS.

The following plans were approved :-

1.	Agricultural Cottages	4.
2.	Converting Servants Wing into dwellings ...	2.
3.	Temporary Dwelling (3 year licence) ...	1.
4.	New milking Sheds	4.
5.	Blacksmith's Shop	1.
6.	Garage	1.
7.	Converting two condemned cottages to one dwelling	1.
8.	Additions and alterations	5.
9.	Agricultural Buildings	4.

NEW DWELLINGS COMPLETED.

Agricultural cottage, Sutton Farm ... 1.

HOUSING REPAIRS.

There is still considerable difficulty in getting tradesmen to undertake the small essential repairs necessary to property in your district. As an instance I would mention that eleven months ago your Council accepted a local tender for £91.10.0 for essential work to four Council cottages but, at the time of writing this report, work had not started.

One Statutory Notice has been served and complied with and five Informal Notices served of which four have been complied with.

SCHOOLS.

Ladycross School has been supplied with a drainage scheme, flushed water closets and suitable sewage works with filter beds.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The Council considered the question of providing a monthly refuse collection service for the main Villages and Hamlets. A tender of £68-5-0 a year was obtained for this service. Whilst appreciating that the tender was reasonable, the Council decided that the time was not opportune to spend a 4d. rate on this service.

WATER SAMPLES.

Five samples of well water were analysed during the year. One well was found to be polluted and a notice was served to protect the well against contamination.

MILK PRODUCTION.

For the second year running I have to report that no new licences have been issued in your district under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders.

During the year 39 visits were paid to cowsheds and dairies. Structural improvements have been carried out in connection with 9 cowsheds.

The results of milk samples taken were as follows:-

Grade.	No. Samples Taken.	Passed.	Failed.
Tuberculin Tested	15	14	1
Accredited	10	8	2
Ordinary School	8	5	3
	33	27	6

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. A. JUDD,

Sanitary Inspector.